

# INTERNATIONAL STUDIES, B.A.

Saint Louis University's undergraduate degree in international studies is offered through the College of Arts and Science (<https://www.slu.edu/arts-and-sciences/>)'s political science department (<https://www.slu.edu/arts-and-sciences/political-science/>). The program provides SLU students the opportunity to focus both on world regions and a specific topic or theme, including arts and culture, environment and health, economics and development or war and peace.

Additional highlights of the Bachelor of the Arts in International Studies include:

- A variety of courses to fulfill program requirements, from economics, political science and sociology to art history, public health, and international business.
- Students will demonstrate proficiency in a modern language and complete a capstone experience.
- Students also have the opportunity to study abroad and participate in local and international internships.

## Curriculum Overview

The international studies major requires 36 credits, and the curriculum includes the following requirements:

Students must demonstrate proficiency in a second language and complete required courses in international politics, international economics and cultural anthropology.

Beyond required courses, students will study world regions (Asia, Africa, Europe, Latin America or the Middle East) for nine credits of coursework as well as a thematic focus (arts and culture, environment and health, economics and development or war and peace) for nine credits of coursework.

Students will also complete an internship, field research experience or elective course. Finally, all students must complete a 3-credit capstone seminar.

## Fieldwork and Research Opportunities

Although not required, students are encouraged to study abroad. The international studies program includes a field research course that enables students to design and conduct research projects relevant to their program of study.

Students can study abroad at Saint Louis University-Madrid (<https://www.slu.edu/madrid/>) or any of the nearly 40 SLU-affiliated programs on six continents. Students can also gain practical experience in their field through an international internship that complements their major.

## Careers

An undergraduate degree in international studies prepares students for a global career and can make students more attractive to employers. Some examples of fields where a degree in international studies can be beneficial include:

- Foreign service and diplomacy
- Private business and consulting in finance, technology, energy, etc.

- NGOs and nonprofits
- International organizations and law
- Public health
- Migration
- Education, academia and research
- Environment and climate change
- National defense and intelligence

## Admission Requirements

Begin Your Application (<https://www.slu.edu/apply.php>)

Saint Louis University also accepts the Common Application and the Coalition Application.

### Freshman

All applications are thoroughly reviewed with the highest degree of individual care and consideration to all credentials that are submitted. Solid academic performance in college preparatory coursework is a primary concern in reviewing a freshman applicant's file.

To be considered for admission to any Saint Louis University undergraduate program, applicants must be graduating from an accredited high school, have an acceptable HiSET exam score or take the General Education Development (GED) test.

### Transfer

Applicants must be a graduate of an accredited high school or have an acceptable score on the GED or HiSET.

Students who have attempted fewer than 24 semester credits (or 30 quarter credits) of college credit must follow the above freshmen admission requirements. Students who have completed 24 or more semester credits (or 30 quarter credits) of college credit must submit transcripts from all previously attended college(s).

In reviewing a transfer applicant's file, the Office of Admission holistically examines the student's academic performance in college-level coursework as an indicator of the student's ability to meet the academic rigors of Saint Louis University. Where applicable, transfer students will be evaluated on any courses outlined in the continuation standards of their preferred major.

### International Applicants

All admission policies and requirements for domestic students apply to international students along with the following:

- Demonstrate English Language Proficiency (<https://catalog.slu.edu/academic-policies/office-admission/undergraduate/english-language-proficiency/>)
- All academic records must include an English translation. An official course-by-course transcript evaluation may be required and accepted.

## Tuition

Tuition/Fee	Cost Per Year
Undergraduate Tuition	\$58,960
University Fees	\$1,000

Additional charges may apply. Other resources are listed below:

Net Price Calculator (<https://www.slu.edu/financial-aid/tuition-and-costs/calculator.php>)

Cost of Attendance (<https://www.slu.edu/financial-aid/tuition-and-costs/cost-of-attendance.php>)

Information on Tuition and Fees (<https://catalog.slu.edu/academic-policies/student-financial-services/tuition/>)

Miscellaneous Fees (<https://catalog.slu.edu/academic-policies/student-financial-services/fees/>)

Information on Summer Tuition (<https://catalog.slu.edu/academic-policies/student-financial-services/tuition-summer-current/tuition-summer-current.pdf>)

## Scholarships and Financial Aid

There are two principal ways to help finance a Saint Louis University education:

- **Scholarships:** Scholarships are awarded based on academic achievement, service, leadership and financial need.
- **Financial Aid:** Financial aid is provided through grants and loans, some of which require repayment.

Saint Louis University makes every effort to keep our education affordable. In fiscal year 2025, 99.6% of first-time freshmen and 92% of all students received financial aid (<https://www.slu.edu/financial-aid/>) and students received more than \$517 million in aid University-wide.

For priority consideration for merit-based scholarships, apply for admission by Dec. 1 and complete a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) by Feb. 1.

For more information on scholarships and financial aid, visit the Office of Student Financial Services (<https://www.slu.edu/financial-aid/>).

## Learning Outcomes

1. Graduates will be able to analyze cultural, economic, political and social aspects of contemporary international issues.
2. Graduates will be able to describe how culture and national identity affect a person's perspectives.
3. Graduates will be able to apply a variety of methodologies to answer empirical questions about international phenomena.
4. Graduates will be able to assess analytical arguments.
5. Graduates will be able to assemble evidence from reliable sources to support their arguments.
6. Graduates will be able to estimate the global or transnational impact of local actions.
7. Graduates will be able to apply their knowledge of international phenomena to engage effectively as global citizens.

## Requirements

International studies students must complete a minimum of 36 credits for the major.

Code	Title	Credits
	<b>University Undergraduate Core</b> ( <a href="https://catalog.slu.edu/academic-policies/academic-policies-procedures/university-core/">https://catalog.slu.edu/academic-policies/academic-policies-procedures/university-core/</a> )	<b>32-35</b>
	<b>Major Requirements</b>	<b>36</b>

<i>Foreign Language</i> <sup>1</sup>		3
Select one of the following:		
CHIN 2020	Intermediate Chinese II: Language and Culture	
or CHIN 3000	Oral and Visual Communication in Chinese	
FREN 3030	21st-Century France	
or FREN 3010	Discovering the French-Speaking World	
or FREN 3020	Text, Voice, & Self-Expression	
or FREN 3040	Society, Nation & the Arts in Pre-Revolutionary France	
GR 3010	Communicating in Written German: The German Media	
or GR 3020	Communicating in Spoken German: Contemporary Issues	
RUSS 3020	Communicating in Russian: History and Politics	
SPAN 2020		
or SPAN 2030		
or SPAN 3030	Refining Spanish Expression: Grammar & Composition	
or SPAN 3040	In Conversation with the Hispanic World	
or SPAN 3100	Spanish Pronunciation	
<i>International Politics</i>		3
POLS 1600	Introduction to International Politics	
<i>International Economics</i>		3
Select one course with the International Studies - Economics attribute, such as:		
IB 2000	Introduction to International Business	
POLS 1510	Politics of the Developing World	
POLS 2600	Introduction to International Political Economy	
ECON 4300	International Trade	
ECON 4310	Exchange Rates and Global Economics	
ECON 4560	Economic Development	
<i>Cultural Anthropology</i>		3
ANTH 2200	Cultural Anthropology	
<i>World Regions (p. 3)</i>		9
Three classes covering regions of the world. Ideally, these will match the student's language focus. Some sample courses that fulfill regional requirements are listed below.		
<i>Thematic Focus (p. 3)</i>		9
Three classes pertaining to a single theme. Thematic foci and sample courses are described below. Courses in this category focus on contemporary implications of the phenomena being studied.		
<i>Internship, field research, elective course</i>		3
Select one of the following:		
ISTD 4910	Internship in International Studies	
ISTD 4970	Advanced Independent Research in International Studies	
Any course with an ISTD attribute or ISTD subject code		
<i>Capstone Seminar</i>		3
ISTD 4800	Capstone: Seminar in International Studies	

The capstone seminars take an interdisciplinary approach to the study of an international phenomenon or area. Students complete research projects and examine the contributions of various approaches.

<b>General Electives</b>	<b>49-52</b>
<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>120</b>

<sup>1</sup> Fluency in a language other than English can substitute for this requirement (as demonstrated via standard language proficiency protocols of the College of Arts and Sciences). Student's who meet this requirement without taking a class will add one ISTD elective to meet the 36 hour requirement of the major.

### World Regions

Courses that fulfill the World Regions requirement carry one or more of the following attributes—International Studies-Africa, International Studies-Asia, International Studies-Europe, International Studies-Latin Am, and International Studies-Mid East.

Code	Title	Credits
ARTH 2100	Art of Jerusalem and Three Faiths: Past and Present	
ARTH 2120	Art in Africa	
ARTH 2140	Islamic Art and Society	
ARTH 2320	Art of the African Diaspora	
ARTH 2350	Excavating Culture of Three Faiths	
ENGL 3170	European Drama	
ENGL 3250	British Literary Traditions to 1800	
ENGL 3260	British Literary Traditions after 1800	
ENGL 3300	Eastern European Literature	
ENGL 3390	Literature and Film of World War II	
ENGL 3500	Literature of the Postcolonial World	
ENGL 3540	Literature of the African Diaspora	
ENGL 4670	Contemporary Postcolonial Literature and Culture	
FREN 4180	French and International Relations: Global Simulation	
FREN 4290	Conflict and Social Change: Women Writers in French	
FREN 4670	Postcolonialism and Violence, Issues of Representation in Francophone Culture, Literature and Film	
FREN 4870	Self/Other: Travel Stories in French Literature & Culture	
GR 3250	German Culture Studies II	
HIST 1710	China and Japan Since 1600: Samurai, Revolutionaries, Entrepreneurs	
HIST 2730	Crossroads of the World: The Middle East and North Africa Through History	
HIST 3120	French Revolution and Napoleon, 1789-1815	
HIST 3140	Twentieth Century Europe: Era of World Wars, 1914-1945	
HIST 3170	Colonial Latin America	
HIST 3280	Russia to 1905	
HIST 3290	Russia Since 1905	

HIST 3740	The British Empire
IB 3020	Latin American Business
IB 3040	Asian Business
IB 3150	Middle Eastern Business
ITAL 3650	Italy Beyond Borders: Social Justice in Modern Italian Culture
ITAL 3700	Global Italy: Migration and Multiculturalism
LAS 3000	Introduction to Latin American Studies
POLS 2510	European Politics
POLS 2520	Introduction to African Politics
POLS 2530	Soviet and Post-Soviet Politics
POLS 2560	The Politics of Asia
POLS 2570	Introduction to Latin American Politics
POLS 2590	Politics of the Middle East and North Africa
POLS 3500	East Asian Political Economy
POLS 3567	Political Development in Contemporary Spain
POLS 3650	International Relations of Africa
POLS 3760	The Politics of Pope Francis
POLS 3810	Latin American-U.S. Relations
POLS 4500	Russian Political Culture
POLS 4630	The European Union: Politics and Political Economy
RUSS 3250	Russia From Peter to Putin: Imperial, Soviet, and Post-Soviet Culture
RUSS 4510	The Russian Orthodox
SOC 1180	World Geography
SPAN 4240	Latin American Short Story
SPAN 4320	The African Experience in Spanish America
SPAN 4400	Strangers in a Familiar Land: Displacements in Latin America
SPAN 4590	Spanish Jewry in Spain and in the Diaspora
SPAN 4790	Spanish Culture & Civilization
THEO 2715	Jerusalem: Three Faiths, One City
THEO 2755	Islam: Religion, Culture, and Society
THEO 3335	Christians In Middle East
THEO 3415	Christ and Color: Liberation Theology
THEO 3710	Arts of Hinduism and Buddhism
THEO 3720	Intuition, Spontaneity, and Flow: Daoism in Comparative Context

### Thematic Focus

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Arts and Culture in an Age of Globalization (attribute International Studies-Arts)</b>		
Ideas move rapidly across boundaries. This information takes a variety of forms – words, images, sounds – and moves across a variety of media. Participating in this great cultural exchange requires students to transcend disciplinary boundaries – bringing together art and politics, music and religion, language and history – in order to understand the creation and global diffusion of shared meaning across time.		
ARTH 1090	Global Masterpieces in Art	
ARTH 2120	Art in Africa	

ARTH 2320	Art of the African Diaspora
ARTH 2100	Art of Jerusalem and Three Faiths: Past and Present
ARTH 2140	Islamic Art and Society
ARTH 2350	Excavating Culture of Three Faiths
ARTH 3720	Modern Art in Spain and France
ASTD 2300	Americans Abroad
ASTD 3040	Religion and U.S. Global Activism
ENGL 3310	World Literary Traditions I
ENGL 3330	World Literary Traditions III
ENGL 3500	Literature of the Postcolonial World
ENGL 3540	Literature of the African Diaspora
ENGL 4680	Major Post-Colonial Writers
ENGL 4690	Topics in 20th/21st Century British, Irish, & Postcolonial Literature & Culture
FREN 4220	French and Francophone Media : Qu'est-ce qui se passe ?
FREN 4290	Conflict and Social Change: Women Writers in French
FREN 4670	Postcolonialism and Violence, Issues of Representation in Francophone Culture, Literature and Film
FREN 4870	Self/Other: Travel Stories in French Literature & Culture
MUSC 1170	Music of Cultures of the World
SPAN 4060	History of the Spanish Language
SPAN 4350	Latin American Testimony
SPAN 4360	Women's Literature in Latin America
THEO 2710	Religions of the World
WGST 3860	Global & Transnational Feminism

#### **Global Health and the Environment (attribute International Studies-Health)**

Many of the most critical contemporary issues – from climate change, to pandemics, to sustainable development – transcend national boundaries, and solutions must also transcend boundaries. Addressing these issues requires students to understand the scientific facts, the ways societies adapt to those realities, and the political process through which change could occur.

ANTH 3460	Global Mental Health
BIOL 1200	Ecological Issues and Society
BIOL 1340	Diversity of Life
BIOL 3280	Ethnobotany
EAS 1080	Introduction to Environmental Science
EAS 1090	Climate Change
EAS 1310	Water-Our Precious Resource
EAS 2530	Climate and Climate Change
HIST 1740	Peoples and Pandemics in History
HIST 3660	History of Nature in America
PHIL 3420	Environmental and Ecological Ethics
POLS 4840	Global Health Politics and Policy
PUBH 2100	Introduction to Global Health
PUBH 2300	Contemporary Issues in Global Health
SOC 2360	Health Inequalities in the U.S.

SPAN 4150	Spanish for the Health Professions
<b>Global Economy and Economic Development (attribute International Studies-Economy)</b>	
Trade links people and places that are very distant and sometimes different from each other. While global markets can be a force for progress and rising living standard, they can also be a source of conflict and forced homogenization, as some prosper at the expense of others. To participate effectively in this global economy, students need to understand its past, present, and potential from a variety of disciplinary perspectives.	
ANTH 2080	Urban Poverty: A Global Perspective
ECON 4300	International Trade
ECON 4310	Exchange Rates and Global Economics
ECON 4560	Economic Development
FREN 4180	French and International Relations: Global Simulation
FREN 4290	Conflict and Social Change: Women Writers in French
IB 2000	Introduction to International Business
IB 3100	Geopolitics of World Business
IB 3160	Cultural Differences in International Business
IB 3140	International e-Business
IB 4120	International Business Strategies
IB 4900	Global Immersion in International Business
IB 4910	International Business Internship
LAS 3000	Introduction to Latin American Studies
POLS 1510	Politics of the Developing World
POLS 2560	The Politics of Asia
POLS 2570	Introduction to Latin American Politics
POLS 2600	Introduction to International Political Economy
POLS 2820	American Foreign Policy
POLS 3500	East Asian Political Economy
POLS 3600	Problems of Globalization
POLS 3620	International Organization and the Management of World Problems
POLS 4630	The European Union: Politics and Political Economy
POLS 4840	Global Health Politics and Policy
SOC 3180	Immigration
SPAN 4160	Business & Professional Spanish

#### **War and Peace in the Contemporary World (attribute International Studies-War)**

International conflict leaves untold human suffering in its wake, including refugees unable to return home, damaged social and political institutions, and environmental devastation. Understanding the roots and forms of conflict and the mechanisms that allow people to live together without violence enables students to work toward a more peaceful and just world.

ANTH 3260	Peace and Conflict
ENGL 3390	Literature and Film of World War II
ENGL 3400	War in Literature

FREN 4180	French and International Relations: Global Simulation
FREN 4670	Postcolonialism and Violence, Issues of Representation in Francophone Culture, Literature and Film
HIST 3250	World in Conflict Since 1945
LLC 3250	Migrants and Borders on Screen: The Cinema of Migration in Mediterranean Europe
MILS 4500	Modern American Military History
POLS 2590	Politics of the Middle East and North Africa
POLS 2640	International Terrorism
POLS 2691	Theory and Practice of Human Rights
POLS 2820	American Foreign Policy
POLS 3530	Comparative Revolutions
POLS 3630	International Security and Conflict Resolution
POLS 3640	International Law
POLS 3650	International Relations of Africa
POLS 3810	Latin American-U.S. Relations
POLS 4610	International Relations: Theory and Practice
POLS 4630	The European Union: Politics and Political Economy
POLS 4650	War, Peace, and Politics
POLS 4692	Theories of World Politics
SOC 3180	Immigration
SPAN 4350	Latin American Testimony

## Additional Academic Requirements

Saint Louis University has graduation requirements for all degree-seeking students. Students are responsible for understanding these Graduation Requirements (<https://catalog.slu.edu/academic-policies/academic-policies-procedures/graduation-requirements/>).

## Academic Standing

### Program Academic Standing

Students must maintain a 2.00 GPA in the major. Students who fall below the 2.00 GPA in the major will be placed on program probation. Students who remain on program probation for more than two consecutive semesters will be withdrawn from the major.

### University Academic Standing

Saint Louis University has undergraduate and graduate standards regarding a student's Academic Standing. Students are responsible for understanding the Academic Standing policy (<https://catalog.slu.edu/academic-policies/academic-policies-procedures/academic-standing-undergraduate/>).

## Roadmap

This roadmap is just one example of a semester-by-semester plan of study for this program. There are other plans students can and do take. The plan of study for each particular student is established in consultation with each student's academic advisor; *this roadmap does not replace academic advising appointments.*

### Roadmap notes:

- This Roadmap assumes full-time enrollment unless otherwise noted.
- Courses/Milestones marked with an "!" are critical and must be completed in the semester listed in the Roadmap to ensure a timely graduation.
- Course availability and sequencing are subject to change.

Course	Title	Credits
<b>Year One</b>		
<b>Fall</b>		
CORE 1000	Ignite First Year Seminar (Must be taken in first 36 credit hours at SLU / Cannot carry attributes)	2-3
CORE 1500	Cura Personalis 1: Self in Community (Must be taken in first 36 credit hours at SLU / Cannot carry attributes / Must be taken at SLU)	1
CORE 1900	Eloquentia Perfecta 1: Written and Visual Communication (Should be taken in first 36 credit hours at SLU / Cannot carry attributes)	3
Foreign Language Course		3
POLS 1600	Introduction to International Politics (Fulfills Core Global Interdependence attribute)	3
University Elective		3
<b>Credits</b>		<b>15-16</b>
<b>Spring</b>		
CORE 1200	Eloquentia Perfecta 2: Oral and Visual Communication (Should be taken in first 60 credit hours at SLU / Cannot carry attributes)	3
CORE 1600	Ultimate Questions: Theology	3
ANTH 2200	Cultural Anthropology	3
Foreign Language Course		3
University Elective		3
<b>Credits</b>		<b>15</b>
<b>Year Two</b>		
<b>Fall</b>		
CORE 2800	Eloquentia Perfecta 3: Creative Expression (taken any time)	2-3
CORE 1700	Ultimate Questions: Philosophy	3
International Economics Course		3
Foreign Language Course		3
University Elective		4
<b>Credits</b>		<b>15-16</b>
<b>Spring</b>		
CORE 3800	Ways of Thinking: Natural and Applied Sciences (taken any time)	3
CORE 2500	Cura Personalis 2: Self in Contemplation	0
World Regions Course		3
Foreign Language Course		3
International Studies Theme Course		3
University Elective		3
<b>Credits</b>		<b>15</b>

**Year Three****Fall**

CORE 3400	Ways of Thinking: Aesthetics, History, and Culture (taken any time)	3
World Regions Course		3
Foreign Language Course		3
University Electives or University Core Courses		6
<b>Credits</b>		<b>15</b>

**Spring**

CORE 4000	Collaborative Inquiry (taken any time)	2-3
World Regions Course		3
Foreign Language Course		3
International Studies Theme Course	Some options fulfill Core attributes	3
University Electives		4
<b>Credits</b>		<b>15-16</b>

**Year Four****Fall**

CORE 3500	Cura Personalis 3: Self in the World	1
ISTD 4800	Capstone: Seminar in International Studies	3
International Studies Theme Course		3
University Electives or University Core Courses		9
<b>Credits</b>		<b>16</b>

**Spring**

Internship, field research, or course with an ISTD attribute		3
University Electives or University Core Courses		11
<b>Credits</b>		<b>14</b>
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>120-123</b>

## Madrid

Saint Louis University's international studies program offers students a cross-disciplinary approach to historical, political and socioeconomic issues in our global society. Addressing topics of contemporary culture and society, the program is designed for students who are keen to grapple with the complex interrelationships of 21st-century international affairs and seek to bring an international dimension to their studies.

## Curriculum Overview

The international studies major requires the completion of 36 credit hours, consisting of four required core classes, a three-class regional focus, a three-class thematic focus, an internship or elective class and a capstone seminar. No class can fulfill more than one requirement in the major.

Key competencies developed through the international studies program are proficiency in a foreign language, facility with key disciplinary approaches, knowledge of world regions and exposure to a thematic area central to the contemporary world. International studies students also have the opportunity to integrate practical work experience and field research into the major.

Due to its interdisciplinary nature, the international studies major allows students considerable choice among a wide variety of courses that fulfill degree requirements. Courses that fulfill the regional and thematic foci can be located by their Banner attributes.

## Faculty

The faculty at Saint Louis University-Madrid are experts in their respective fields. They are internationally recognized teachers, researchers and mentors. Learn about our faculty members (<https://www.slu.edu/madrid/academics/faculty/faculty-profiles.php>), including their education, credentials, experience and contact information.

## Faculty Research

The SLU-Madrid faculty maintains robust programs of research in a variety of fields. See below for more data.

Find Faculty Research Information (<https://www.slu.edu/madrid/academics/faculty/faculty-research.php>)

Find Research Resources (<https://www.slu.edu/madrid/academics/faculty/research-resources.php>)

## Fieldwork, Internships and Careers

SLU's chapter of Sigma Iota Rho, an honor society for international studies, provides students with programs such as faculty research presentations and social service events, as well as other fun, internationally oriented activities.

Qualified students may choose to earn up to three credits toward their degree by doing an internship. These students learn to implement the skills they study while gaining valuable professional experience in international organizations.

## Admission

SLU-Madrid Application (<https://www.slu.edu/madrid/apply.php>)

## Application Deadlines

- April 1 - Fall admission (July 1 for EU students)
- Aug. 1 - Spring admission (Nov. 1 for EU students)
- March 1 - Summer sessions (for applicants who require a student visa)
- April 15 - Summer sessions (for applicants who do not require a student visa)

## Contact Us

Office of Admissions  
Avenida del Valle, 34  
28003 Madrid, Spain  
P. (+34) 91 554 58 58  
[admissions-madrid@slu.edu](mailto:admissions-madrid@slu.edu)

**Office Hours:** Mondays through Fridays: 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. (3 p.m. on Fridays from May 15 - Sept. 1)

## Tuition and Fees

SLU-Madrid is committed to providing a quality Jesuit education at an affordable price. Tuition rates at SLU-Madrid are approximately 40% lower than at comparable private universities in the U.S.

If you have questions or would like to speak with a financial aid officer, email us at [financialaid-madrid@slu.edu](mailto:financialaid-madrid@slu.edu).

- Tuition and Fees (<https://www.slu.edu/madrid/admissions/tuition-fees.php>)

- Scholarships and Financial Aid (<https://www.slu.edu/madrid/admissions/scholarships-financial-aid.php>)

## **2+SLU**

2+SLU programs provide a guided pathway for students transferring from a partner institution.

International Studies, B.A. (STLCC 2+SLU) (<https://catalog.slu.edu/academic-policies/office-admission/undergraduate/2plusslu/stlcc/international-studies/>)

## **Contact Us**

For additional information about this program, please contact [pols-admin@slu.edu](mailto:pols-admin@slu.edu) or call 314-977-3035.